



MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION/LEGISLATIVE DINNER held Thursday, December 12, 2002, at the Greenbelt Marriott, for the purpose of discussing the City's legislative priorities for 2003.

Mayor Davis convened the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

PRESENT WERE Council members Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, Alan Turnbull, and Mayor Judith F. Davis.

STAFF PRESENT WERE Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Robert A. Manzi, City Solicitor; David E. Moran, Assistant to the City Manager; and Kathleen Gallagher, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE State Senator Paul Pinsky; State Delegates Anne Healey, Tawanna Gaines, and Justin Ross; and County Councilmember Douglas Peters.

Mayor Davis welcomed the legislators and thanked them for attending. The following legislative priorities were identified and discussed:

State Issues:

- Bond Bill for Addition to Springhill Lake Recreation Center
- Protection of Municipal Funding Sources
- Allowing Municipalities to Lower Speed Limits on City Streets

Joint State/County Issue:

- Opposition to Inter-County Connector/Support for Inner-Beltway Purple Line
- Full Planning and Zoning Authority for Municipalities

County Issues:

- Overturning CB-40
- Restoration of County Payment of COG Membership Dues

Regarding the speed-limit issue, Senator Pinsky and Delegate Healey asked staff to get in touch with their offices next week with the goal of pursuing statewide bills. Under the planning and zoning authority issue, County Councilmember Peters noted the need to educate County legislators who do not come from municipalities that have some

experience with this authority; Senator Pinsky emphasized that only a system of strong checks and balances would make granting this authority palatable. Regarding CB-40, Councilmember Peters commented that he believed the bill was likely to be overturned.

Under "Information Items," the following were described: renovation of Greenbelt Middle School; the status of the Metroland development proposal; Beltway noise barriers; and the salt dome at Kenilworth and Cherrywood.

Under "Other Issues of City Interest," the following were mentioned: car-sharing programs; funding for the Law Enforcement Equipment Fund; upgrading police communications systems and making them operable between agencies; banning items used as drug paraphernalia; and support for fast-filling natural gas fueling stations. Senator Pinsky expressed interest in possibly framing a bill on the latter, if it could be framed to assist counties and municipalities with fleets over a specific minimum size.

The legislators thanked the City for its hospitality, and Council thanked them for coming.

The meeting was adjourned at shortly after 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Gallagher
City Clerk